(54) **Title: POKER GAME METHOD AND PLAYING AREA**
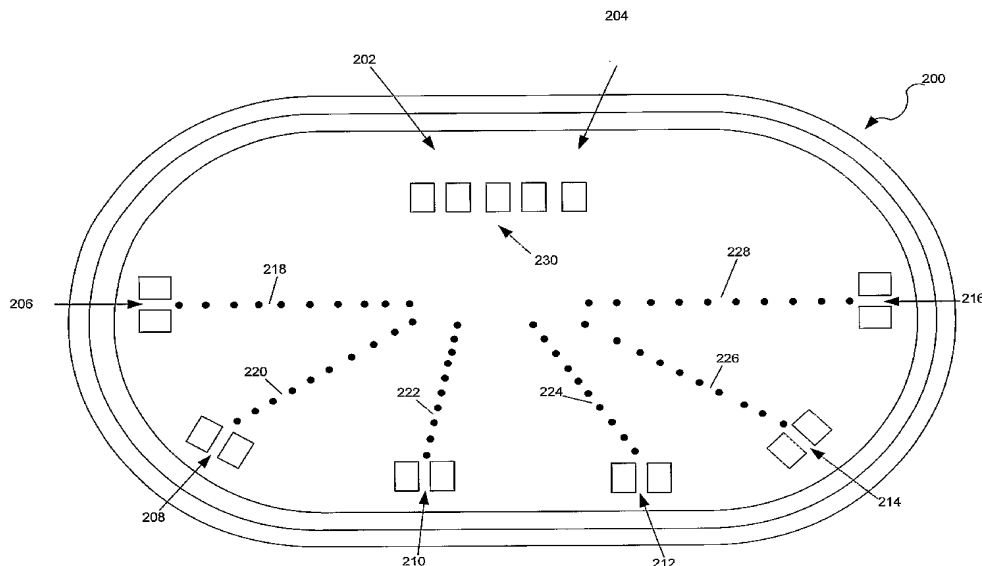
(57) **Abstract:** A method of playing a poker game including the steps of: dealing hands to players; during one or more betting rounds, requiring each player to check, call, raise or fold within a predetermined time; for each player, indicating incremental elapsing of at least a portion of the predetermined time; if a player does not check, call, raise or fold within the predetermined time: declaring the player's hand dead if no bet exists in the betting round; or holding the player to a check if a bet exists in the betting round; after all betting rounds are completed, determining betting by ranking remaining hands.